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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Takashi HORAGUCHI**

Serial No.: **Not Yet Assigned**
(§371 of International Application PCT/JP04/15817)

Filed: **April 25, 2006**

For: **SUTURE THREAD SHIFTING DEVICE**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: April 25, 2006

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination of this application, please amend the
above-identified patent application as follows: